

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1) A method for assigning an identifier to at least one of a plurality of displayable task schedules associated with a corresponding plurality of different entities, the identifier representing a task requiring action by an entity, comprising:
- initiating display of at least one interface menu supporting user entry of decision information for assigning a task representative identifier to a task schedule associated with a particular entity;
 - receiving decision information entered via the at least one interface menu; and
 - applying the received decision information in assigning the task representative identifier to the task schedule associated with the particular entity in response to a predetermined event.
- 10 15 2) A method according to claim 1, wherein the step of initiating display of the at least one interface menu includes initiating display of menu elements prompting a user to identify at least one of (a) the predetermined event triggering application of the decision information in assigning the task representative identifier to the task schedule, (b) a source of the decision information, (c) decision information comprising a procedure 20 for processing data associated with a task to determine a task schedule for listing the task representative identifier.
- 25 3) A method according to claim 1, wherein the decision information comprises a logical procedure for processing data associated with a task to identify a task schedule for incorporating the task representative identifier.

- 4) A method according to claim 3, wherein the data associated with a task comprises at least one of (a) a medical procedure identifier for a scheduled procedure, (b) a time and date of performance of a medical procedure, (c) patient medical record information, (d) location of performance of a medical procedure, (e) patient type identifier and (f) patient physical characteristics.
- 5) A method according to claim 1, wherein the entity comprises at least one of (a) a user, (b) a category of users, (c) a role of a user and (d) a medical device or system.
- 10 6) A method according to claim 1, wherein:
- a. the decision information identifies the predetermined event and
 - b. the predetermined event corresponds to at least one of (a) patient admission, (b) beginning of a medical procedure, (c) end of a medical procedure and (d) a user defined event based on information acquired.
- 15 7) A method according to claim 1, further including applying the received decision information in prioritizing a plurality of task representative identifiers of a task schedule associated with a particular entity in response to occurrence of a triggering event.
- 20 8) A method for assigning an identifier to at least one of a plurality of task schedules associated with a corresponding plurality of different entities, the identifier representing a task requiring action by an entity, comprising:
- a. initiating display of at least one interface menu supporting user entry of decision information for assigning a task representative identifier to a task schedule associated with a particular entity and accessible by the

particular entity, the decision information including:

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 - i. a procedure for processing data associated with a task to identify a task schedule for incorporating the task representative identifier, and
 - ii. an event for triggering application of the procedure in allocating the task representative identifier to the identified task schedule;

b. receiving decision information entered via the at least one interface menu; and

c. applying the received decision information in assigning the task representative identifier to the task schedule associated with the particular entity in response to occurrence of the triggering event.

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9) A method according to claim 8, wherein the data associated with a task comprises at least one of (a) a medical procedure identifier for a scheduled procedure, (b) a time and date of performance of a medical procedure, (c) patient medical record information, (d) location of performance of a medical procedure, (e) patient type identifier and (f) patient physical characteristics.

10) A method according to claim 8, wherein the triggering event corresponds to at least one of (a) patient admission, (b) beginning of a medical procedure, (c) end of a
20 medical procedure and (d) a user defined event based on acquired information.

11) A method according to claim 8 further including acquiring the data associated with a task.

12) A method according to claim 8, wherein

- a. the procedure conditions allocation of the task to the task schedule associated with the particular entity upon coincidence of a plurality of occurrences, and
- 5 b. further including acquiring data to identify the coincidence of the plurality of occurrences.

13) A method according to claim 8, wherein

- a. the triggering event is conditioned upon coincidence of a plurality of occurrences, and
- 10 b. further including acquiring data to identify the coincidence of the plurality of circumstances.

14) A method according to claim 8, further including applying the received decision information in removing a task representative identifier from the task schedule associated with the particular entity in response to occurrence of a triggering event.

15) A method for providing a user interface for assigning an identifier to at least one of a plurality of displayable task schedules associated with a corresponding plurality of different entities, the identifier representing a task requiring action by an entity, comprising:

- a. in response to a user command,
 - i. initiating display of at least one interface menu supporting user entry of decision information for assigning a task representative identifier to a task schedule associated with a particular entity; and

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- ii. initiating display of an updated task schedule associated with the particular entity, the updated task schedule being generated in response to applying received decision information in assigning the task representative identifier to the task schedule associated with the particular entity in response to occurrence of a predetermined event.

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16) A method for providing a user interface supporting assigning an identifier to at least one of a plurality of task schedules associated with a corresponding plurality of different entities, the identifier representing a task requiring action by an entity, comprising:

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- a. in response to a user command,
- i. initiating display of at least one interface menu supporting user entry of decision information for assigning a task representative identifier to a task schedule associated with a particular entity and accessible by the particular entity, the decision information including,
 - ii. a procedure for processing data associated with a task to identify a task schedule for incorporating the task representative identifier, and
 - iii. an event for triggering application of the procedure in allocating the task representative identifier to the identified task schedule; and
- b. initiating display of an updated task schedule associated with the particular entity, the updated task schedule being generated in response to applying received decision information in assigning the task representative identifier to the task schedule associated with the particular entity in response to occurrence of the triggering event.

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17) A method for assigning an identifier to at least one of a plurality of task schedules associated with a corresponding plurality of different entities, the identifier representing a task requiring action by an entity, comprising:

- 5 a. initiating display of at least one interface menu supporting user entry of decision information for selectively assigning a task representative identifier to at least one of a plurality of task schedules associated with a corresponding plurality of different entities, the decision information comprising:
- 10 i. a procedure for processing data associated with a task to identify a task schedule for incorporating the task representative identifier, and
- 15 ii. an event for triggering application of the procedure in allocating the task representative identifier to the identified task schedule;
- b. receiving decision information entered via the at least one interface menu; and
- c. applying the received decision information in selectively assigning the task representative identifier to the at least one of the plurality of task schedules associated with the corresponding plurality of different entities in response to occurrence of the triggering event.

20 18) A system for assigning an identifier to at least one of a plurality of displayable task schedules associated with a corresponding plurality of different entities, the identifier representing a task requiring action by an entity, comprising:

- 25 a. a display processor for initiating display of at least one interface menu supporting user entry of decision information for assigning a task representative identifier to a task schedule associated with a particular

entity;

- b. an interface processor for receiving decision information entered via the at least one interface menu; and
- c. a decision processor for applying the received decision information in assigning the task representative identifier to the task schedule associated with the particular entity in response to a predetermined event.

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- 19) A computer program embodied within a computer-readable medium created using the method of claim 1.